

Application No. 10/020,990

**Remarks**

The undersigned attorney gratefully acknowledges the courtesies extended by the Examiner during our November 5, 2004 telephone conference. During the telephone conference, the section 112 rejections contained in the Final Action were discussed with the undersigned attorney proposing changes to claim 12 to overcome the rejections. The Examiner made no decision whether the proposed changes rendered the claims in allowable condition. The undersigned attorney indicated he would file an Amendment After Final Action to place the proposed claim changes before the Examiner for her formal consideration.

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

In Section 8, the Examiner rejected claims 12-17 and 20 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph as set forth in the Action. Applicants believe the disputed claim language is supported by the original disclosure but are deleting the disputed claim language solely to expedite prosecution.

Applicants are amending the claims to indicate that the substrate is a single piece substrate and that the first recessed surface portion is a feature of the single piece substrate. These changes are supported by FIGS. 1-4 where the first recessed surface portion (18A, 18B, 18C, and 18D) is a feature of a single piece substrate (2A, 2B, 2C, 2D). In addition, Examples 1 and 2 on page 9 describe an aluminum cylindrical substrate where the substrate end regions were machined to form recessed surface portions, thereby further supporting the added claim language that the first recessed surface portion is a feature of the single piece substrate.

The amended claims are patentable over Herbert et al., US Patent 5,683,742 alone or in combination with Crump et al., US Patent 5,385,759. Herbert is deficient since it fails to disclose a recessed surface portion at a substrate's end region. Crump fails to remedy this deficiency. In Crump, the tapered regions (22, 26, and 32) are found on the couplers (16, 20), not on the substrate 18. Moreover, Crump's couplers (16, 20) cannot be viewed as part of substrate 18 since the couplers are detachable from the substrate 18; Crump does not disclose the presently claimed aspect that the first recessed surface portion is a feature of the single piece substrate.

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In Section 9, the Examiner rejected claims 12-17 and 20 under 35 USC 112, first paragraph as set forth in the Action. Applicants believe the disputed claim language is supported by the original disclosure but are deleting the disputed claim language solely to expedite prosecution.

Applicants are amending the claims to add "dip coated layer comprises materials for a photoreceptor layer" and "drying the dip coated layer to result in the photoreceptor layer, wherein the photoreceptor layer is part of the photoreceptor." Support for this added language is found for example on page 8, last paragraph; on page 7, lines 19-26; and in the sentence bridging pages 2-3.

The amended claims are patentable over Hughes, US Patent 4,627,808. Hughes discloses apparatus for making hard capsules wherein the hard capsules are stripped from the capsule forming apparatus (see, e.g., abstract). In contrast, the present claims as amended recite that "the photoreceptor layer is part of the photoreceptor." It is well known to those of ordinary skill in the art that in fabricating a photoreceptor the dip coated and dried photoreceptor layer is not separated from the substrate or else there would not be a functional photoreceptor. Thus, with respect to whether the dip coated layer remains on the substrate, Hughes and the presently claimed invention are taking opposite approaches.

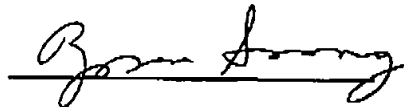
In Section 12, the Examiner rejected claims 12-17 and 20 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as set forth in the Action. Applicants believe the claims are supported by the original disclosure but are amending the claims solely to expedite prosecution.

No additional fee is believed to be required; however, the undersigned Xerox Corporation attorney authorizes the charging of any necessary fees, other than the issue fee, to Xerox Corporation Deposit Account No. 24-0025.

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In view of the foregoing, the present application as amended is in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner considers personal contact advantageous to the disposition of this case, he is hereby requested to call the undersigned attorney at (585) 423-4292, Rochester, NY.

Respectfully submitted,



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